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LETTER DATED 12 DECEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the violations of Iraqi national airspace committed by United States aircraft in order to carry out reconnaissance, cause provocation and drop heat flares continued during the period 1 to 10 December 1994.

1 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 15 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 69 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Nasiriyah, Basra, Artawi, Qurnah, Amarah and Jalibah.

At 1013 hours on 1 December 1994, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in areas over Artawi, Jabal Sanam, Jalibah, Busayyah and the area south of Samawah. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1210 hours.

At 1818 hours on 1 December 1994, a hostile two-aircraft formation dropped six heat flares over Qal'at Salih, Maysan Governorate.

2 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 7 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Mosul, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 75 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Amarah and Rifa'i.

At 2220 hours on 2 December 1994, a hostile two-aircraft formation dropped three heat flares over the area south-east of Zubayr, Basra Governorate.

3 December 1994

Southern region: 70 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Basra, Qurnah, Qal'at Salih, Amarah, Nasiriyah, the area south of Najaf, the area south of Diwaniyah, Samawah, Salman, Busayyah and Artawi.

At 2050 hours on 2 December 1994, a United States aircraft dropped three heat flares over the area south-east of Zubayr, Basra Governorate.

4 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 9 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Mosul, Dohuk, Irbil, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 83 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Nasiriyah, Qal'at Salih, Busayyah, Artawi, Jalibah and Jabal Sanam.

At 1000 and 1230 hours on 4 December 1994, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes violated Iraqi airspace over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Chabaish, Shinafiyah, Busayyah, Basra and Artawi. They left in the direction of Kuwait at 1140 and 1454 hours.

5 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 17 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Mosul, Zakho, Dohuk, Amadiyah and Tall Afar.

(b) Southern region: 71 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qurnah, Artawi and Busayyah.

At 1030 and 1236 hours on 5 December 1994, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in areas in the south of the country. They left in the direction of Kuwait at 1140 and 1440 hours.

6 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 17 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Ayn Zalah.

(b) Southern region: 60 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, the area south of Diwaniyah, the area south of Najaf, Qurnah, Salman, Chabaish, Busayya and Jalibah.

At 0955 hours on 6 December 1994, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace over Hamzah, Shinafiyah, Salman, Jalibah, Artawi and Jabal Sanam. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1037 hours.

7 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 15 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Aqrah and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 50 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Nasiriyah, Jalibah, Qurnah, Artawi and Samawah.

At 0955 and 1225 hours on 7 December 1994, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in areas in the south of the country. They left in the direction of Kuwait at 1140 and 1443 hours.

8 December 1994

(a) Northern region: 6 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 54 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Jalibah, Artawi and Busayyah.

9 December 1994

Southern region: 45 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Artawi, Busayyah, Jalibah, Chabaish and Basra.

10 December 1994

Southern region: 41 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, centred over Basra, Samawah, Amarah, Chabaish and Artawi.

Between 0850 and 1145 hours on 10 December 1994, three United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in areas in the south of the country, as follows:

1. The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0850 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1003 hours.

2. The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1025 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1310 hours.

3. The third flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1145 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1315 hours.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative